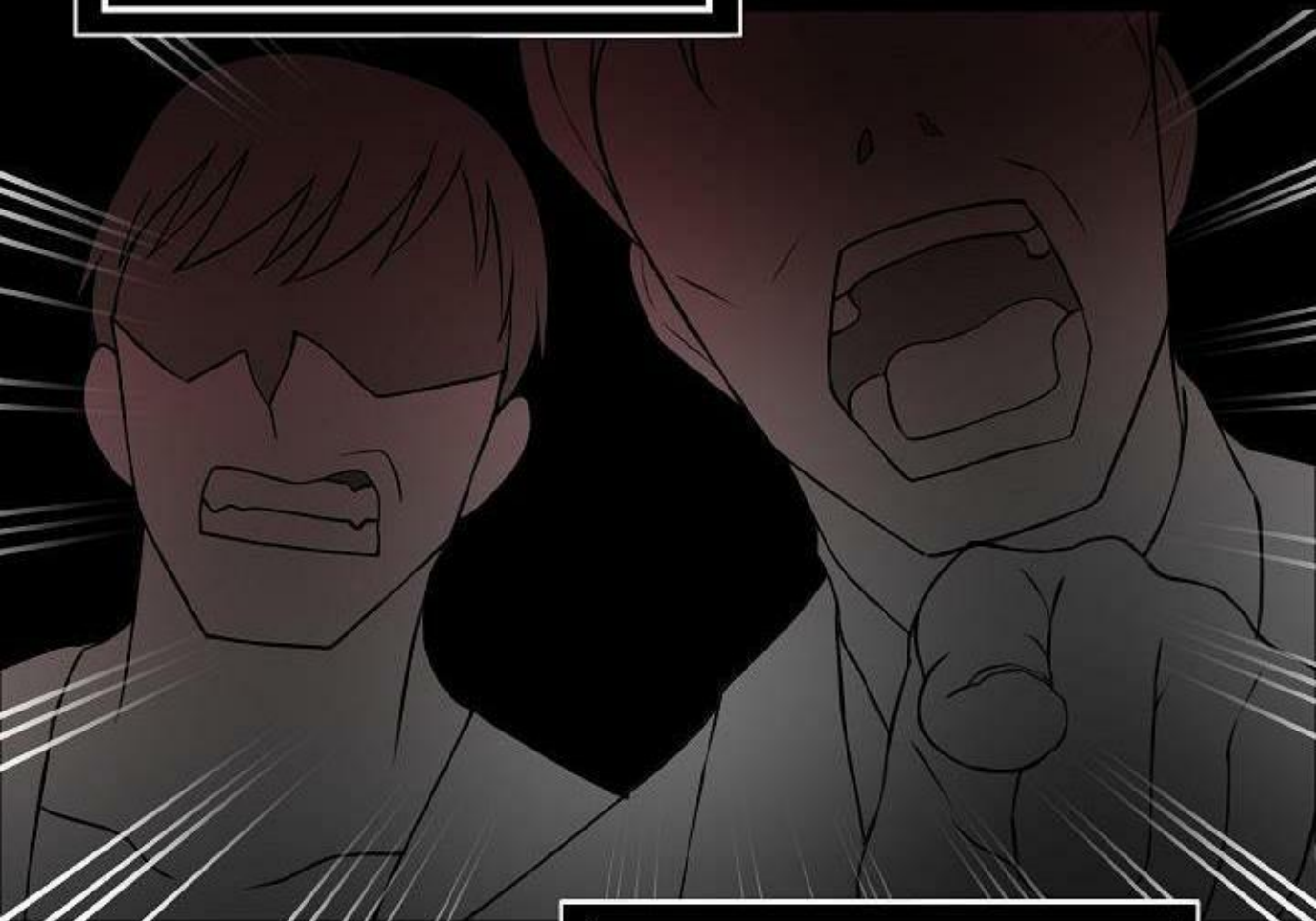


**SHE TOLD ME TO GIVE AWAY
THE THINGS AND MONEY THAT
MY FATHER HAD LOST.**



**IT WAS AN
INSTANT WHEN THE DEBT
COLLECTORS CAME.**



**SINCE THEN, SELENE,
WHO HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR
OUR LIVELIHOOD, HAD TO WORK
TO EARN MONEY.**



FROM CLEANING...



**RESTAURANT
KITCHEN...**



VARIOUS CHORES...





**EVEN THE PHARMACY
ASSISTANT...**



**THERE'S NOTHING
I HAVEN'T DONE**



**EVEN HOUSEHOLD ITEMS.
I SOLD IT...**

**HOWEVER, THE SITUATION
DID NOT IMPROVE**





**ANYWAY, I COULDN'T
SEND MY BROTHERS TO
SCHOOL.**



トウ...

...I HEARD THAT
WOMEN IN YOUR
FAMILY ARE SO
FAMOUS FOR THEIR
FERTILITY?





...?



...I HOPE
THAT HISTORY IS
VALID FOR YOU
AS WELL.




...YES?

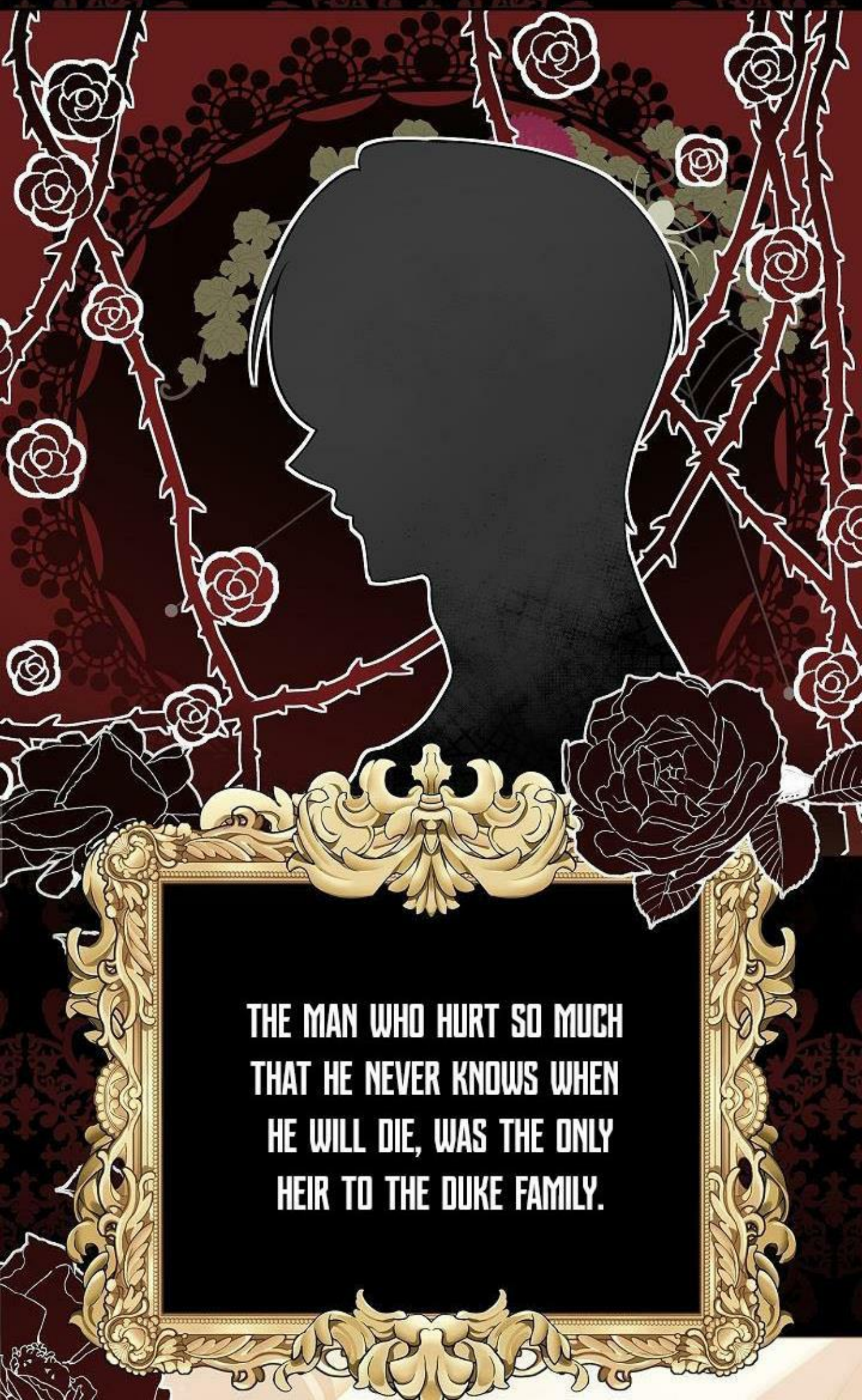
**SAY IT
OUTRIGHT.**



**I WANT MY SON
TO GIVE BIRTH
TO AN HEIR.**

A quill pen with a dark, textured feather and a sharp, light-colored nib is positioned diagonally across the right side of a white rectangular piece of paper. The paper is set against a solid yellow background.

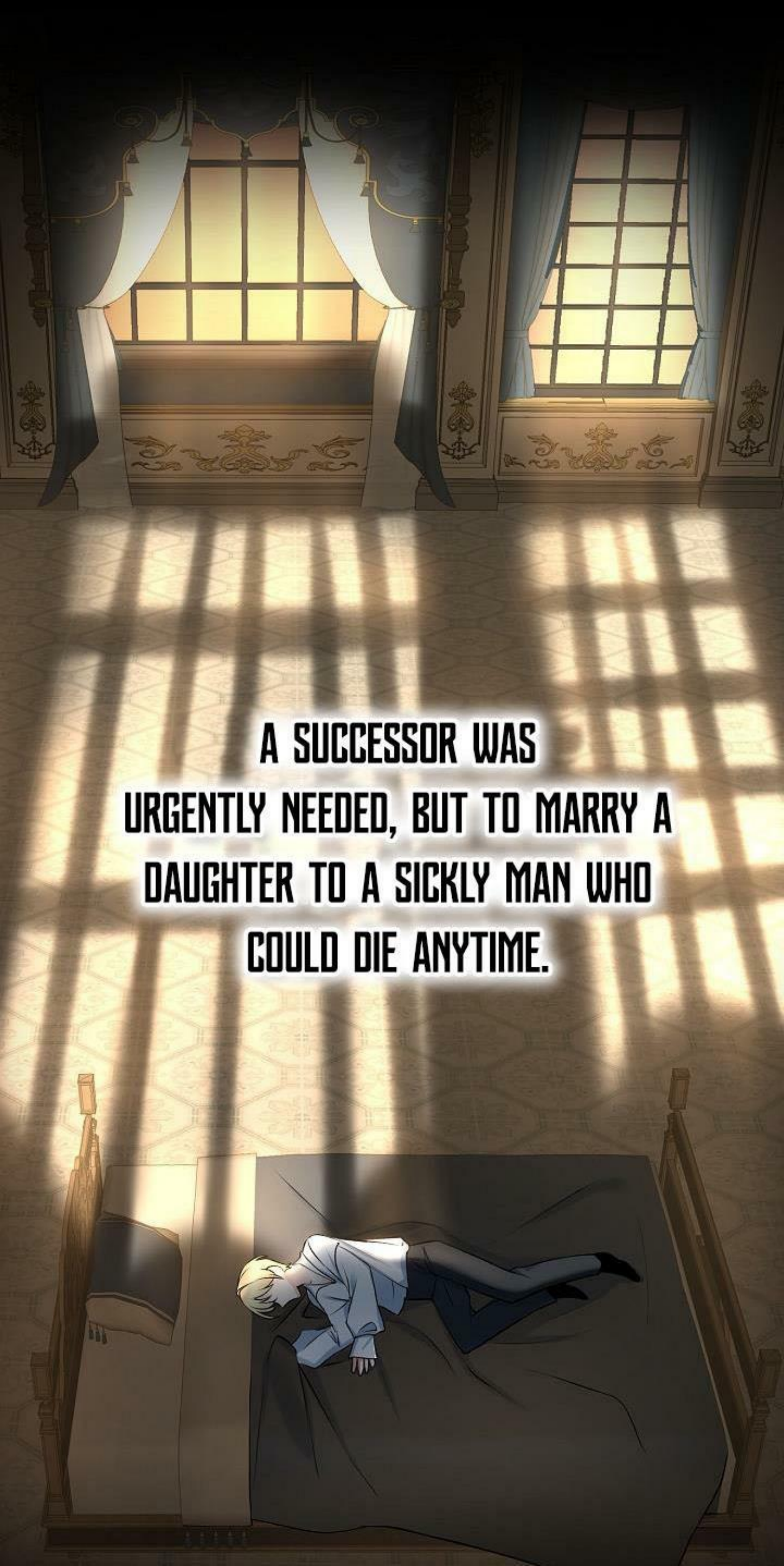
*The Duchess Camilla
had a sickly son.*



THE MAN WHO HURT SO MUCH
THAT HE NEVER KNOWS WHEN
HE WILL DIE, WAS THE ONLY
HEIR TO THE DUKE FAMILY.



**IF HE DIED, THE DUKE'S
LEGACY WOULD END.**

A person with short blonde hair, wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt and dark blue trousers, is lying on their side on a bed. The bed has a dark grey blanket and a wooden headboard and footboard. The room has a patterned floor and two large windows with white frames and blue curtains. Sunlight is streaming in through the windows, creating long, vertical shadows on the floor. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

**A SUCCESSOR WAS
URGENTLY NEEDED, BUT TO MARRY A
DAUGHTER TO A SICKLY MAN WHO
COULD DIE ANYTIME.**

**THERE WERE NO NOBLE FAMILIES
WHO WANTED TO DO THAT.**

**SO THE DUCHESS TOOK
THE NEXT BEST THING.**





SHE DECIDED TO ADOPT THE
DAUGHTER OF A NOBLEMAN
WHO HAD NO MONEY BUT
WAS IN GOOD STANDING AS
HIS DAUGHTER-IN-LAW.



IF YOU GIVE
BIRTH TO AN HEIR,
I WILL PAY ALL
YOUR DEBTS,

IT ALSO
GUARANTEES A WAY
FOR YOUR YOUNGER
BROTHERS TO EAT
AND LIVE.



ALTHOUGH BOTH
PATERNAL AND MATERNAL

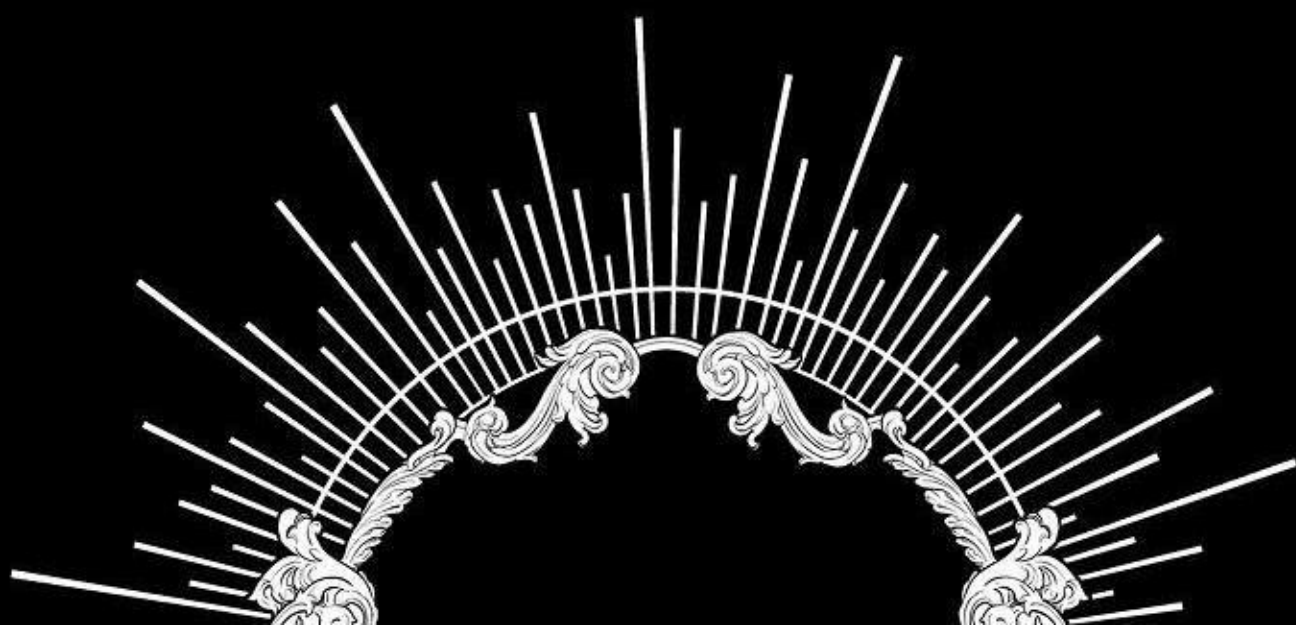
**PATERNAL AND MATERNAL
LINES ARE FERTILE,**



**WITHOUT PARENTS
TO OPPOSE MARRIAGE
TO A SICKLY MAN...**

**THE ONE WHO MEETS
ALL THESE CONDITIONS**

THE DAUGHTER OF A
FALLEN NOBLE FAMILY,

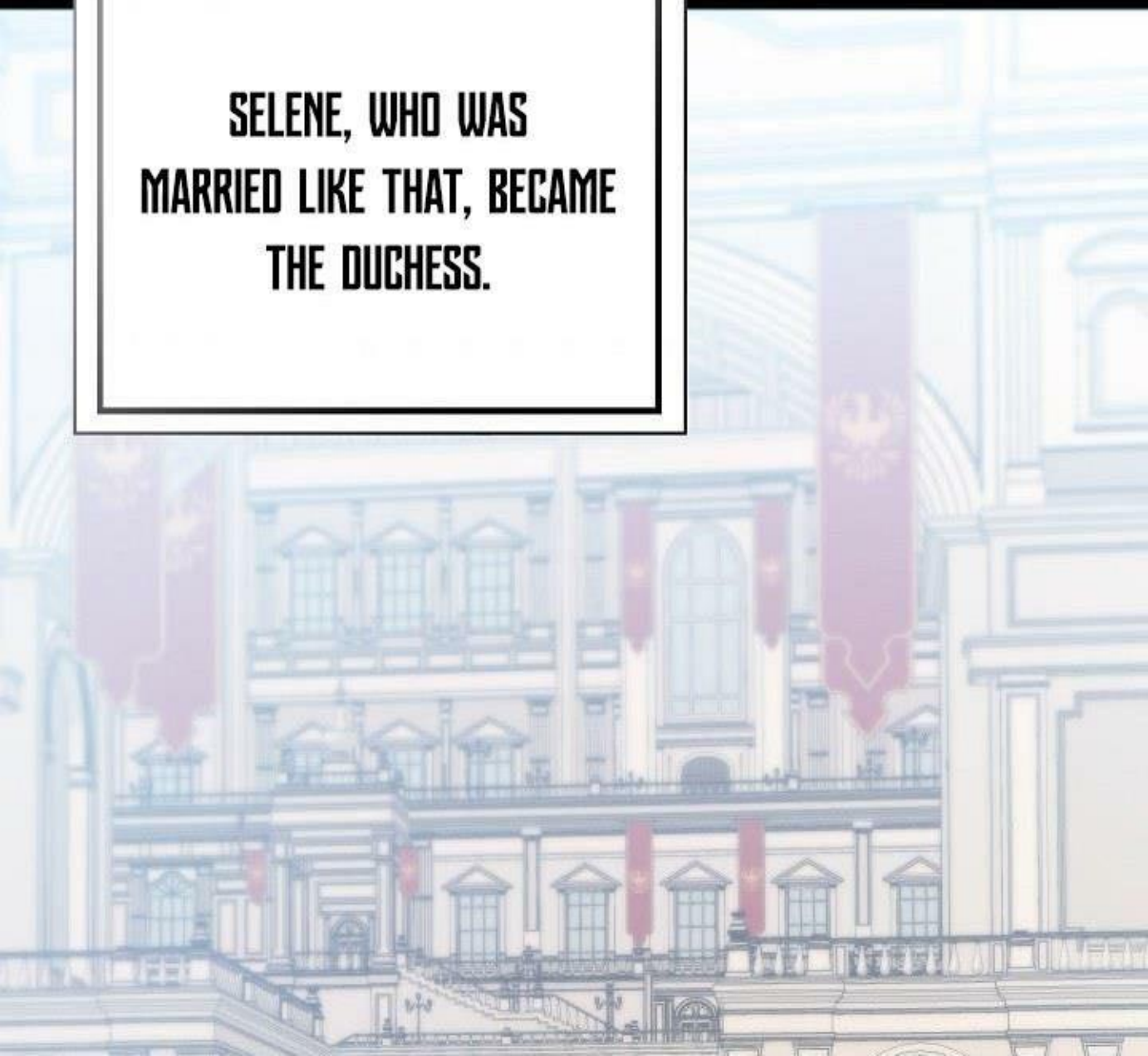


IT WAS 'SELENE'.



**OF COURSE, SELENE HAD NO
REASON TO REFUSE EITHER.**

**SELENE, WHO WAS
MARRIED LIKE THAT, BECAME
THE DUCHESS.**





**IF I HAVE A
SUCCESSOR, EAT WELL
AND LIVE WELL...**





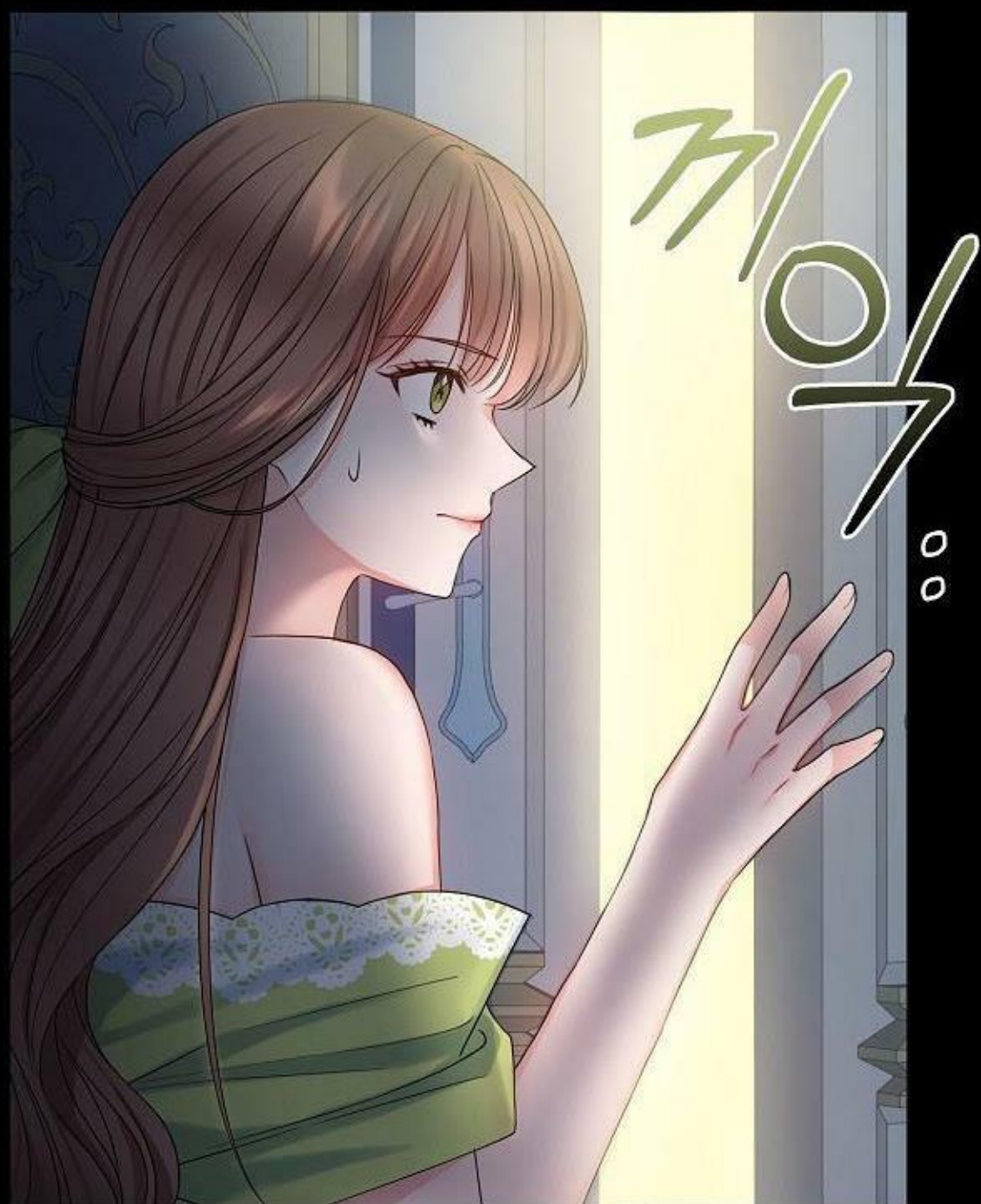
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN
A HAPPY ENDING.



THE MARRIED
LIFE (?) WITH HIM WENT
STRANGELY FROM THE
FIRST NIGHT.



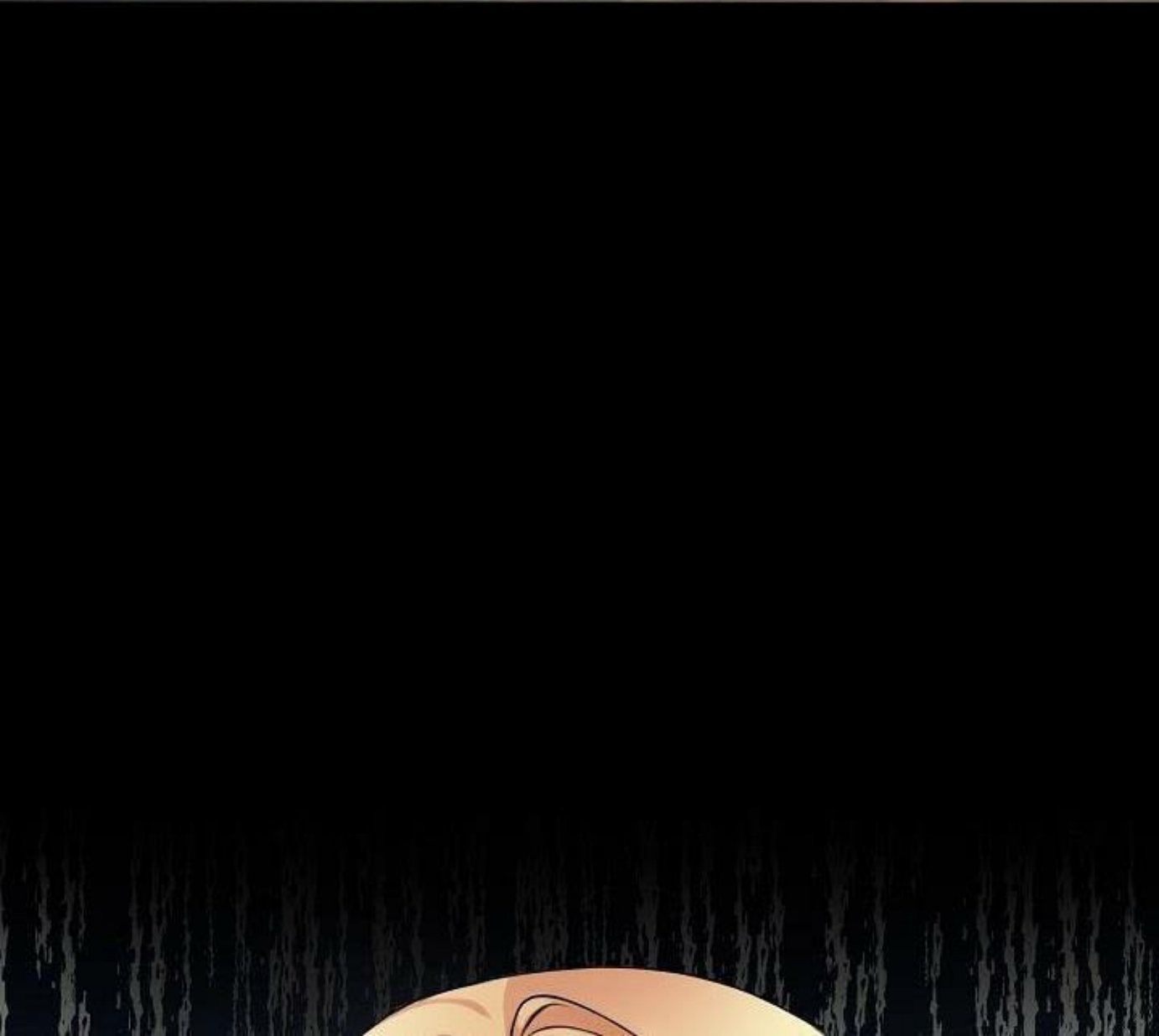














...WHAT,
YOU?



병약한? 남편의



계약이대

그림 | 연홍

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